

Message Text

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15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTe-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SAM-01 L-02 /032 W

----- 017609

R 221150Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1912

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

FAA BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3491

LONDON AND PARIS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, SP, UK, PO

SUBJECT: EUROCONTROL VISITS MADRID

REF: MADRID 1506, 3/6/74; MADRID 2208, 4/5/74

1. EUROCONTROL DIRECTOR GENERAL BULIN, ACCOMPANIED BY GOODESON AND RAVEN, DIRECTOS GENERAL RESPECTIVELY OF CIVIL AVIATION IN THE UK AND THE NETHERLANDS, AND SENIOR EUROCONTROL OFFICERS, VISITED MADRID MAY 19 TO 20. LARROQUE, DIRECTOR GENERAL INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION (WHICH INCLUDES CIVAIR), SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY, CALLED IN EMBOFF TO DESCRIBE VISIT.

2. MAIN PURPOSE OF TRIP WAS PROTOCOL ONE, ESPECIALLY SINCE MOST SENIOR OFFICIALS IN CIVILIAN PART OF SPANISH AIR MINISTRY ARE NEW TO JOBS. THERE WERE MANY BUSINESS AND SOCIAL MEETINGS, ALL OF WHICH ATTENDED BY LARROQUE, BUT THERE WAS NO PROGRESS WHATSOEVER TOWARD SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN EUROCONTROL, BECAUSE OF BRITISH VETO, BASED ON GIBRALTAR CONTROVERSY (REFTELS).

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3. LARROQUE TOLD EMBOFF HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT BULIN WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO HAVE SPAIN IN EUROCONTROL. LARROQUE SAID HE TOLD REPS THAT ORGANIZATION SPANISH MEMBERSHIP THEREIN ENTIRELY UP TO THEM, AND THAT IT WAS IN THEIR INTEREST TO HAVE SPAIN IN IT, SINCE 40 PERCENT OF EUROPE'S AIR SPACE IS SPANISH TERRITORY. IMPLICATION WAS THAT EUROCONTROL MEMBERS SHOULD PRESSURE UK TO ADMIT SPAIN.

4. LARROQUE ALSO STATED HE TOLD EUROCONTROL REPS THAT SPAIN HAS VIABLE ALTERNATIVE AS FAR AS TECHNICAL FACILITIES ARE CONCERNED, I.E., FAA PROPOSAL TO AID IN LETTING TENDERS FOR BIDS AND SUPERVISING CONSTRUCTION OF CIVILIAN ATC NETWORK. AS LARROQUE PUT IT TO EMBASSY OFFICER, "YOU'VE GOT IT," MEANING THEREBY THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT'S ACCEPTANCE OF THESE FAA ADVISORY SERVICES IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.
(COMMENT: LARROQUE HAS FREQUENTLY STATED THIS IN THE PAST. NEW SENIOR AIR MINISTRY OFFICIALS CONSULTED BY EMBOFF HAVE SAID SPANISH ACCEPTANCE FAA PROPOSAL LIKELY. BUT THEY ARE NOT QUITE SO POSITIVE AS LARROQUE.)

5. CONCERNING EUROCONTROL MORE GENERALLY, LARROQUE SAID HE HAD LEARNED FROM VISITING GROUP THAT A FOUR-DAY MINISTER-IAL LEVEL MEETING OF THAT ORGANIZATION HELD IN BRUSSELS AROUND THE 15TH OF MAY HAD TAKEN PLACE WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF INVOLVED UK MINISTER SHORE. LARROQUE SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT SHORE WAS A LEADING OPPONENT OF BRITISH MEMBERSHIP IN COMMON MARKET AND BITTERLY OPPOSED TO SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN EUROCONTROL ON GROUNDS GIBRALTAR CONTROVERSY. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENT ON SHORE ATTITUDE SPANISH MEMBERSHIP EUROCONTROL EMBASSY LONDON MAY HAVE.

6. PORTUGESE MEMBERSHIP IN EUROCONTROL WAS ALSO DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH IN THESE MEETINGS, ACCORDING TO LARROQUE. HE TOLD EMBOFF PORTUGAL VERY MUCH WANTS FULL MEMBERSHIP IN THAT ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, EUROCONTROL LEADERSHIP WOULD PREFER THAT PORTUGAL HAVE AN ASSOCIATE STATUS FOR THE TIME BEING, BECAUSE OF DOUBTS ON THE PART OF EUROCONTROL MEMBER COUNTRIES ABOUT WHERE IT IS GOING POLITICALLY. (COMMENT: SOME AIR MINISTRY SOURCES, ALBEIT A WHILE AGO, STATED THEIR VIEW THAT PORTUGAL WAS INDIFFERENT TO EUROCONTROL MEMBERSHIP AND WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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MERELY WAITING TO DO EXACTLY WHAT SPAIN DOES, SINCE PORTUGAL BORDERS ONLY ON SPAIN.)
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, MEMBERSHIP, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID03491
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750181-0050
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750528/aaaaaynn.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 1506, 75 3/6/74, 75 MADRID 2208, 75 4/5/74
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EUROCONTROL VISITS MADRID
TAGS: EAIR, SP, UK, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006